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Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed on World Issues
LD311256 London BBC World Service in Arabic
1315 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Report on telephone interview with Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi by Hasan Mu'awwad; date, place not given]

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi has given his opinion of the wave of protests staged in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. He criticized Britain, the United States, and even the Arab rulers. The criticism came in an exclusive interview with the BBC Arabic Service conducted over the telephone by colleague Hasan Mu'awwad. The Libyan leader also discussed his position on the Iraq-Iran war and relations with the Arab Maghreb states, the United States, and Britain.

The Libyan leader first spoke about the recent wave of protests in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He said:

[Begin recording] I have contacts with all the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The revolution has reached all the Palestinian people. I am now seeking to call on all the Arabs to provide genuine support for our people to enable them to perpetuate this revolution. I have also sent messages to the UN secretary general, the Security Council, and the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, urging them to mobilize world public opinion and resources in support of these people who are defending their freedom in their own homeland.

I have contacted some leaders in occupied Palestine over the past days. They assured me of the steadfastness and continuation of the revolution and of the high morale. On this occasion I urge our heroic Palestinian people to continue the revolution. I have asked the leaders that I have contacted, and I now ask the Palestinian masses, not to necessarily use violence because the will of the Palestinian people is stronger than the enemy's weapons. The Palestinian people's will is stronger than arms and there is no need to use any means of violence, lest we give the enemy an excuse to open fire and commit massacres everywhere in order to terrorize our people.

I, however, call for civil mutiny and the destruction of the interests of Britain which gave Palestine to the Israelis—for the destruction of these interests in occupied Palestine as well as the interests of the United States, which backs this repressive enemy. [end recording]

The Libyan leader then spoke about the Arab dimension of the wave of protests. He said:

[Begin recording] This sweeping uprising came as an answer to the Amman treasonous conference which clearly forfeited Palestinian rights and beloved Palestine. I will support this revolution with all resources and I am

Dr Ahmad Salamah, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council Affairs, affirmed that it is with the utmost concern and extreme anxiety that Egypt has been following the events of the overwhelming uprising of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in recent weeks. This uprising is of deep significance in many ways, as it confirms the Palestinian people's rejection of the Israeli occupation, their adherence to their legitimate national rights, and their determination to continue the struggle until these rights are restored.

In his statement, delivered before the council on behalf of the government, Salamah said that the continuation of the Palestinian people's uprising despite all the suppressive measures proves that violence only produces more violence. It also proves, he declared, that the only way to achieve peace and stability for the region and its people is by convening an international peace conference under UN auspices. Dr Salamah expressed his support for the Palestinian people's uprising and said that Egypt has strongly condemned the repressive methods used by Israel in confronting this uprising.

Discussing the council's statement, members of the Consultative Council affirmed the Egyptian people's backing for the Palestinian people and their support for the popular uprising being staged by unarmed Palestinian youths against the Israeli forces.

The council members criticized Israel's brutal way of confronting the uprising of the Palestinian people, who are demanding their legitimate rights.

USSR's Brutents Arrives in Cairo From Syria
NC011835 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT
1 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jan (MENA)—Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department and the Supreme Soviet Presidium's envoy, arrived in Cairo this evening for a 4-day visit to Egypt.

Upon his arrival, Brutents said the aim of his visit is to brief Egyptian officials on the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. summit conference and to discuss bilateral relations.

Assistant Foreign Minister Wafa' Hijazi, who received the Soviet official at the airport, stated that President Husni Mubarak, as well as Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of other Egyptian officials, will receive the Soviet guest. Hijazi said that the Soviet official's visit is indicative of the firm relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

The Soviet envoy was also met at the airport by Gennadiy Kirillovich Zhuravlev, Soviet ambassador in Cairo, and Ambassador Isma'il Mubarak, director of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

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working for the mobilization of effective Arab and international forces in support of the Palestinian people. The world must understand that the traitor Arab rulers misrepresented the case to the conference and that this is the case of a people whose land has been occupied since 1948. [end recording]

We then asked about the Gulf war, noting in this connection the presence of the Iranian foreign minister now in the Libyan Jamahiriya, the reports about the alleged Iranian intention to launch a large-scale offensive against Iraq, and about the possibility of it extending to the other Arab Gulf states. He said:

[Begin recording] We have been against this war from the very beginning. I have made efforts and continue to make efforts to bring about an end to the war. I see it as an aimless war and a mad war characterized by cowardice and immorality, so much so that school children have become a target of the two sides. The war has stooped so low that it has lost sight of the truth, of the foundations of Islam, and Arab ethics. I condemn the two sides. Regarding the other Arab states, they were the ones who involved themselves in that war and brought the United States to occupy the Gulf.

I happen to know that the Arabs have not benefited from the Gulf oil which has been of service to the United States. That is why when the war got close to the oil and to these interests, the United States interfered to protect its interests. [end recording]

Still regarding the Iraq-Iran war, we asked the Libyan leader if he would abide by any international ban on the export of arms to Iran. He replied:

[Begin recording] Libya is not an arms exporter. It imports arms. I wish there could be a ban on the manufacture and export of arms, not only to Iran but to everyone. [end recording]

It has been reported that the Libyan Jamahiriya is trying to improve its relations with the Arab Maghreb and the Arab world in general. We asked Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi for his opinion of these reports. He said:

[Begin recording] Our message is clear. It is Arab unity from the ocean to the Gulf. With the birth of the revolution in Libya, the winds of unity blew on the Arab Maghreb region, which had until then been isolated. The Arab African Union was set up with the Moroccan Kingdom but because of the king's isolationism and the U.S. and Israeli pressures on him, he was not free to go ahead with this union. Therefore he unilaterally and illegally annulled the union; this was illegal because a public referendum was held and the people approved it.

The king abrogated the union without consulting the people. Now there is a constitution for a federation between the Jamahiriya and Algeria. We invite Tunisia,

Mauritania, and even Morocco to join the federation, and if we see that they cannot grant the Arab masses' demands for unity, then the federation will be immediately set up between the Jamahiriya and Algeria. [end recording]

Finally, on the Libyan Jamahiriya's foreign relations, we asked the Libyan leader what he thought of the reports that his country is trying to improve its relations with the United States and the West in general, including Britain. He replied:

[Begin recording] We do not need to establish relations with Britain or even the United States. Even if we boycotted them until doomsday it would not hurt us. [end recording]

Al-Qadhafi Views Chad, Amman Summit NC011427 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230GMT 1 Jan 88

[Text] Libyan Leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi has reiterated that the Lebanese fighters who came to Libya did so to defend Libya and fight against imperialism. In a statement to the AL-SAFIR newspaper, published today, Al-Qadhafi said that Libya is the center for all pan-Arab revolutionaries and is now being threatened by France and the United States. It is not being threatened by Chad at all. An anti-Libyan alliance has been formed, comprised of the United States, France, Egypt, Israel, Zaire, and the Ivory Coast. Chad is merely the land used by all these hostile forces. The French brought a black military division into Chad, and so did the Americans. The arms come from Egypt and Israel and the training officers come from Egypt, Israel, the United States, and France. We are actually confronting armies and Habre is only a mask used by these armies, he declared.

Hence, he continued, the Arab revolutionary fighters rushed to defend their headquarters, Libya. They did not come to fight Chad. Some of the commanders of these fighters told Habre that the Lebanese and Palestinian fighters did not come to fight against Chad, because there is no problem between Libya and Chad, but only to fight against imperialism. These commanders even advised Habre to get rid of imperialism, as this would resolve the Chadian problem. But it seems that this decision can only be made by the United States, which asked Habre to fight against Libya in return for military, financial, and food assistance, Al-Qadhafi said.

In his statement, Al-Qadhafi described the harassment to which the Lebanese are being subjected in certain African states as a dirty racist action.

The Libyan leader assailed the Egyptian regime and the Amman summit, saying that the massacres of the Palestinian people after the Gorbachev-Reagan summit represents a provocation against Arab dignity and a new scandal for the Arab states that restored ties with Egypt. The Libyan leader asked: Why does Egypt keep silent

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over the slaying of Palestinians when Gaza belongs to Egypt? Also, why is it slaying the Nasirites in Egypt? It is doing so because it is a strong ally of Israel, he stated.

In response to a question, the Libyan leader said: We consider the unity of the Palestinian resistance under the PLO leadership a pan-Arab demand, but since the PLO is linked with Yasir 'Arafat now, those who are opposed to 'Arafat seem to be opposed to the PLO. This should not be the situation. We must differentiate between the two. I insist on the unity of the Palestinians within the PLO, otherwise we will not be able to solve the Palestinian problem.

Asked about reconciliation between the Syrians and Yasir 'Arafat, the Libyan leader replied that the Libyan and Syrian analyses of this matter are identical. He added: Reconciliation can only be achieved by making concessions. When we accept and shake hands with King Husayn, we might as well accept and shake hands with Yasir 'Arafat.

He added that Syria is aware that King Husayn is a traitor and has been holding secret negotiations with the Israelis since the days of Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan. But Syria has established relations with Husayn so that he will not go to the enemy and enter into direct negotiations that will end up in another Camp David agreement. Syria is acting under duress and not out of conviction. It might have been forced to shake hands with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]; this is not an impossibility, Al-Qadhdhafi stated.

The Libyan leader assailed the Amman summit and its results. He said: I have made many attempts to mend Arab dissension, and I made titanic efforts to stop the Gulf war. We managed to prevent this war from extending to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The Amman summit decided to restore relations with Egypt, and this has foiled our efforts which were very near to success. What we mended broke down again at the Amman summit, and that is why I believe a wave of violence, such as liquidations, revolutions, and uprisings, will hit Arab capitals in the future. I expect several heads to roll during the next few years, he said.

The Libyan leader affirmed that the U.S. ambassador in Amman had played a basic role in the Amman summit.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Students on Revolution
LD032337 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 3 Jan 88

[Text] [Announcer] Within the framework of the instigatory role of the leader of the revolution to emphasize the revolutionary discourses and the building of the ideal Jamahiriyyah, and to create the generation of revolutionary anger which will unite and liberate the Arab nation and resist the crusader invasion and reinforce the cause of freedom in the world, the brother leader of the

revolution has, since the beginning of the current educational year, 1397, from the death of the prophet corresponding to 87-88 A.D., met with the students who have been accepted in the colleges of The Great Al-Fatih University for Medical Sciences, Al-Nasir International University, Al-Raya al-Khadra' University for Engineering Sciences, and the College of Agriculture at the Al-Fatih complex of universities.

[Begin Al-Qadhdhafi recording] (?We should not teach subjects) in which we are unable to provide work for graduates. [chants] If we teach you electronics, and after graduation you do not find work in Libya, you would be obliged to leave for a country that has work in electronics. The occupied lands use electronics against Arabs. If we were unable to use electronics we should not open this door, or teach electronics. You might learn pharmacology and manufacture of medicine, however, you will not find a factory for medicine in Libya and you will end up as a clerk with a register before you to record the visitors. You would search for a place or a country with factories and plants because you have learned how to manufacture medicine.

Because you are not aware you will find yourself either in Britain, Germany, Italy, Israel, or with the Americans instead of staying in your country and managing to use electronics and managing to set up a medicine factory because it represents the trench from which you fight. You do not know the trench or fighting and you do not know the ways and means for fighting, for you have not read anything about it. It is not your fault; it is the fault of those people who claim to be undertaking ideological education and who are responsible for youth in the secondary and the intermediate schools, ensuring that they pass this program.

Why should the Jews come to Palestine if they were not aware? Why should a Jew come to Palestine and fight you? He used to be unable to distinguish between Palestine and Finland. He comes there because he knows Palestine and that he is one of the sons of Israel, and that the sons of Israel were in conflict with the Canaanites and with the Arabs, and that Nebuchadnezzar took them into captivity in Babylon and destroyed their dynasty, and that the pharaoh had expelled them, and that the Romans [word indistinct] and that Hitler had put them in the gas chambers.

All of this was taught to them and they became aware, so they have said to themselves: We, the Jews, have suffered all of these tragedies everywhere and every time throughout history, so we have to possess power, nuclear bombs, and arms and will slaughter the world as they had did us. They are aware; had they not been, they would not have occupied Palestine. Now the Jew is fighting you with awareness. He knows that you are his enemies. So, you are a nation exposed to danger. They have planted

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danger for you [words indistinct]. The United States is attacking you, as well as France and the British, and you are sitting not knowing that you are being attacked from all directions.

The United States wants to stretch its arm over the Arab area on its way to the Soviet Union. How will it reach it? By crossing the Atlantic Ocean, then Europe, where it is now present, and then by asserting its presence on both sides of the Mediterranean Sea. It is determined to acquire the Arab homeland. How to seize it? If there was a revolution, it undermine it; if there was a leader working toward liberation, destroy him; if there was a power, eliminate it; if there was unity in the offing, prevent it; and if there was an economic power, undermine it. It intends to keep us weak, always seizing our resources for the benefit of its factories and Europe's factories. Whether it was the United States or Europe it does not matter so much; the important thing is this homeland must not be allowed to be strong. [chanting]

Europe is an advanced industrial and military force; it is looking for raw materials, consumer markets, and simple-minded people to consume what it produces. We are a consumer area. We are a disjointed area, a great vacuum having no industrial force and no military strength—and no political force that can fill the vacuum.

Naturally, Europe wants to fill the vacuum in our area. We call it military expeditions, multinational companies, cultural colonialism, economic colonialism, neocolonialism—call it what you like. It is a flow from the high pressure area to the low pressure area. It is just like the air you see in the weather forecasts. An area having high pressure is one in which the air is greater inside it; and the other area has air that is low. This air flows to fill that area in the same way as the theory of the pots [words indistinct] which you have been taught in the primary schools. The water keeps on flowing until it fills the vacuum and reaches its own level.

This is the struggle between us and Europe and between us and the United States, and even between us and the Israelis. It is a challenging operation. You are not able to entrench your feet on your soil. You lack culture. The culture of others comes along to teach you culture. You now say: [words indistinct] radio, television; what does this mean? It means there is a vacuum in the words you have. You took the things from Europe and you kept on calling them by telephone. This is because you have a vacuum, a lack of words. You are not able to use a word in place of another.

They brought you an instrument through which you speak. What do you call it? If you want to buy it or repair it, or if for example you say: I want to speak to you at such and such hour—what do you use to talk to me? You are compelled to use it. You failed to fill the vacuum created by this word. It remained vacant. The European word came along: Telephone. You said: Telephone. It is you. For instance, when they brought this instrument

along you should have called it: Hatif. The word telephone has an equivalent: Hatif. You failed to fill this vacuum by not using the word hatif.

You have no military force. Europe came along with an occupying military force. If you had a military force, the European forces would not be able to stand up to your force. If the Arabs are an industrial force and if you manufacture and make use of your manufactured products, the Europeans would not be able to find their way to you. But today, most of the manufactured products that come to you from Europe and that are not so useful come to you from Europe and find a market in your countries. [end recording]

[Announcer] The brother leader of the revolution also met yesterday with students at the secondary certificate school of the Abi Slim Municipal Branch. He met today with the secondary certificate students at the Hay al-Andalus Municipal Branch within the framework of preparations to launch the historic battle of the unification of the Arab nation and its liberation:

[Begin Al-Qadhdhafi recording] The struggle continues. Who said that the struggle is over or that it is by means of gunpowder, bullets, and guns only? This would be the final means. However, the bullet and the gun require science. They require that one learn how to make a gun, to learn chemistry to be able to make (?gas) or gunpowder, to learn how to make an aircraft. An engineer has to learn how to repair an aircraft, a tank, or a cannon. All this requires science.

Science is the base for everything. If we lose the battle of science then we lose the final battle—that of our existence. And what is the value of our existence?

We are a nation facing a serious challenge. The United States is an imperialist power endeavoring to dominate the world. Europe has created the EEC and is forming a dangerous political and economic bloc. India is a nuclear power. The socialist bloc is another superpower. China constitutes 25 percent of the earth's population. The yellow race—China, Korea, Japan, Thailand—all these want to unite together as the yellow race. They are feared because they may become strong, industrialized, united, and they may become a danger to the Soviet Union and the United States. This is the reason for the rapprochement between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The world is transforming into blocs. He who is not a bloc cannot survive. They all have desires in the Arab homeland, whose map is not clear here. [video shows Al-Qadhdhafi pointing at map of the world] This is a strategic region relating to all the continents of the world. The Arab world is the heart of the world. They do not want a power to develop within it and dominate it. They want to dominate it themselves. [students chanting slogans] [end recording]

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Al-Qadhdhafi Message on Ties With Tunisia *LD041023 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0907 GMT* 4 Jan 88

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Jan (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has sent a cable to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in reply to the cable that he sent on the restoration of normal relations between Tunisia and the Great Jamahiriyyah. Here follows the text of the cable:

I have received your cable on the restoration of normal relations between Tunisia and the Great Jamahiriyyah, which is a natural development resulting from the correction of the situation on 7 November, a memorable date which will have its effects on the region.

Your personal efforts, as well as all our other brothers' efforts in the sisterly, sincere, and faithful Algeria, which you exerted in the past year in order to achieve such a step—efforts stemming from your belief in the need to work for the establishment of Arab Maghreb unity, as well as Arab unity, in accordance with your perception of the need for raising the Arab nation to the level of the challenges it faces in this era—are much appreciated.

Finally, may I once more express my appreciation for your efforts which we can never forget. Please accept my best regards.

[Signed] Your brother, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Foreign Liaison Source on Relations With Egypt *LD311513 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1427 GMT* 31 Dec 87

[Text] Tripoli 31 Dec (JANA)—Media organs have relayed a statement attributed to 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, foreign minister of the Egyptian regime, in which he said that Libya and Syria are fraternal countries and there is no animosity between them and Egypt. The Egyptian minister stressed his country's welcome to any Arab mediation which might lead to greater rapprochement.

A source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, in reply to a question by JANA, commented:

First: The great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah has repeatedly, in deeds and words, expressed that the relations between Egypt and Libya are relations of fraternity and unity of destiny, and that what binds the Arab people in both countries is stronger than any relationship between any other two countries in the region.

Second: The great Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah has repeatedly stressed that there are no problems obstructing the resumption of relations between the two fraternal countries other than the involvement of the Egyptian regime in the agreements of shame and disgrace with the Zionist enemy which led to grave consequences for the Arab nation and especially to Egypt.

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Receives Egypt's Butrus Ghali *JN311157 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT* 31 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Dec (SUNA)—This morning, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi met with Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. They discussed bilateral ties and ways to strengthen them.

Dr Ghali told SUNA that he and Al-Mahdi reviewed the outcome of Ghali's African tour. It has so far taken him to Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya. The Egyptian official added that this African tour is aimed at exploring how peace can be established in the region. He called his meeting with Al-Mahdi positive and constructive, and said that it was part of ongoing consultations between Egypt and Sudan.

Dr Ghali has also called on the chairman of the State Council to brief him on his African visit. This tour is part of Egypt's mediation effort to ease recent tensions between Sudan and Ethiopia.

Sees 'Great' Chances for Peace *JN311635 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1531 GMT* 31 Dec 87

[Text] In a press statement he made today following his meeting with Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that the possibilities of peace with both the rebel movement and with Sudan's neighbor Ethiopia are great.

Al-Mahdi said that the problem of southern Sudan can be resolved as long as Sudan recognizes such a problem exists.

The prime minister maintained that the problem will not be solved by force of arms, that armed conflict will only bring further losses, and that the essence of the problem can be solved peacefully.

Al-Mahdi asserted that the problems of Sudan and Ethiopia can be solved, and that the resources of the two countries must be directed toward building and development. He also noted that this is particularly true since the two countries have agreed on the policy of good-neighborliness and can additionally agree on just formulas to solve the rebel movements in the two countries.

The prime minister then noted that Sudanese-Ethiopian relations are not connected with the problem of southern Sudan.

Al-Mahdi said the two countries have agreed to hold a meeting, and what remains is to determine the venue of the joint Sudanese-Ethiopian ministerial committee. He indicated that Sudan will present a detailed paper on bilateral relations at such talks.

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Al-Mahdi declared that he will meet with President Mengistu Haile Mariam at the conclusion of the meetings of the joint committee. Sudan and Ethiopia had agreed to hold the joint committee talks on 7 January 1988. Sudan has proposed six African states as a venue for the meetings, namely: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Egypt, Nigeria, and the Central African Republic.

The prime minister noted that the results of Butrus Ghali's African tour are very positive. Ghali had briefed Al-Mahdi on his tour during their meeting. The Egyptian official visited Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya in addition to Sudan.

Talks With Ethiopia Set for Cairo on 7 Jan
JN030723 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 3 Jan 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Jan (WAKH)—Press reports here today mention that positive developments for eliminating tension in relations between Sudan and Ethiopia will take place in the next few days.

AL-ITTIHAD cites a diplomatic source in Cairo as saying that intensive contacts between Addis Ababa and Khartoum over the past 2 days have resulted in an agreement to convene a meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries in Cairo on Thursday [7 January].

The source said that six African capitals, including Kampala, Nairobi, and Djibouti, have been considered for such a meeting. However, it was finally agreed to hold the talks in Cairo after Egypt expressed its readiness to host such a meeting as part of its contribution to improving relations between the two countries.

Qaysan 'Liberated,' Garang Forces 'Crushed'
EA011601 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Jan 88

[Excerpt] A dispatch from the radio team in Al-Damazin says that the brave Armed Forces this afternoon liberated the town of Qaysan and crushed the forces of rebel agent John Garang and his supporters. The Sudanese flag now flies high in the sky over the town. The decisive battle began at 0500 today and continued for hours. After this, the rebel hordes fled [words indistinct], and victory for our steadfast Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

2 Ethiopians 'Arrested'
JN021743 Khartoum SUNA in English 1717 GMT 2 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 2 (SUNA)—Two Ethiopian troops were arrested during the attack on the border town of Qaysan which was recaptured by the Armed Forces yesterday, a reliable source at the General Command said today.

The source said the two Ethiopian troops had revealed very important information that evidently prove Ethiopia's involvement beside the rebels during the fighting.

The source added that the Ethiopian troops had shifted two rocket propellers [launchers] from Kurmuk town to Qaysan for boosting the rebels.

SPLA on 'Faked Battle'
EA021509 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Jan 88

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLA dismissed as an obnoxious and callous, naked lie Khartoum's claim that they captured Qaysan yesterday after a fierce battle that started at dawn and lasted 5 hours. The spokesman said that this is another fabrication in the string of lies Khartoum has carefully orchestrated in the last 2 months, a system applied, designed to deceive, and mobilize certain sections of the Sudan community along racial and sectarian lines, to solicit foreign support, and to raise the low and sagging morale of Khartoum's Army.

The truth about Qaysan is that there was never a battle for Qaysan and not a single SPLA soldier nor Khartoum soldiers was killed on 1 January 1988. Khartoum only designed a faked fighting in Qaysan on 1 January 1988 to flavor independence celebrations. Consistent with SPLA policy of classical guerrilla warfare in Southern Blue Nile, the SPLA evacuated Qaysan 72 hours before Khartoum's faked battle, who claim that there was a fierce battle lasting 5 hours and that the SPLA suffered heavy casualty [as heard] as absurd and shameless lying to the Sudanese people and the world.

The SPLA war in Southern Blue Nile is going on according to plan, and we assure the two ruling families that the war in Southern Blue Nile will cost them dearly with minimum losses to the SPLA.

Ethiopian Soldier Seeks Political Asylum
JN311622 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1512 GMT 31 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Al-Damazin, 31 Dec (SUNA)—Lieutenant Colonel Hassan Sayyid Mustafa, director of the military intelligence branch of the 14th Brigade, has indicated that Ethiopian soldier Adani Wolde Rufael Koffi, who surrendered to the Sudanese forces in Kurmuk yesterday, Wednesday, has sought political asylum. He added that Adani's request will be studied either in Khartoum or Wad Madani, in the Central Region. He also stressed that the statements Adani made concurred with the information available to the military intelligence service from other sources. [passage omitted]